

# The Polish Review





## POLISH NAVY NOW BOASTS FINE CRUISER

London, Jan.—The Polish navy already much stronger than it was before Germany's unprovoked aggression against Poland in September 1939, now boasts a powerful cruiser formerly H.M.S. Dragon, which for some time now has been partly manned by Polish officers and a Polish crew. This fine warship passes from the strength of the British to the Polish navy and will soon be given a Polish name. The Polish flag has already been hoisted on the Dragon which in future will be manned exclusively by Poles. It is the Polish navy's first cruiser and is now ready for active service.

## NO CENSUS POSSIBLE

Although ordered by Hitler, the population census of the Government General has been again postponed to March 1943. The official announcement confirms further deportations of Poles, saying: "The census cannot be accurate because of the continuous movement of the population caused by war conditions, but the census will give for the first time accurate percentage of each national group. This is most important from a political point of view; it will also show the exact number of Germans in the Government General. Of late they have been arriving from the Reich in large numbers."

# TERROR OF HITLER'S "NEW ORDER" IN POLAND IS STILL ON INCREASE

Many barns and stables with livestock, belonging to German colonists near Slupca have been burned down.

V.V.V.

20,000 Germans from Bosnia have been installed in camps near Lodz. Near Zgierz a new large camp is being built.

V.V.V.

In Wroclaw a Polish worker, Antoni Dlugi, aged 67, was sentenced to death for "insulting his German employer."

V.V.V.

In Lodz, two Poles, Bieldzynski and Doslawski, were sentenced to death for economic sabotage. They had sold cloth to Poles.

V.V.V.

Janina Gintz, nee Wesolowska, a Polish postal official, was sentenced to death in Grudziadz for having tampered with the German field post.

V.V.V.

It is reported from Danzig that Jozef Pawlowski and Bernard Wielgosz of Tczew were sentenced to death for raiding a German freight train.

## General Sikorski Back in London

London, Jan.—General Wladyslaw Sikorski, Polish Prime Minister and Commander-in-Chief, has arrived in London after a most successful visit to America—perhaps the most successful any prime minister has made since the United States entered the war.

General Sikorski arrived in America on December 1st and at once proceeded to Washington where he had three interviews with President Roosevelt whose guest he was. These talks were interspersed by long sessions with Mr. Sumner Welles, Under Secretary of State, and numerous conferences with the combined Chiefs of Staff, with General Marshall and General Arnold and other high officials of the U. S. Govt. During his stay in Washington General Sikorski received an Honorary Degree of Doctor of Laws from the Catholic University.

On December 16th General Sikorski was the guest of the Overseas Press Club at a luncheon given in his honor at the Lotos Club in New York. This was the only opportunity General Sikorski had of meeting the press in America's largest city and he spoke before a great gathering of more than 300 editors, correspondents, radio commentators and other well-known authorities on international affairs.

On leaving New York General Sikorski proceeded to Chicago, Detroit and Buffalo, visiting war plants and holding important press conferences in each of these cities where he was enthusiastically greeted by the many Americans of Polish descent who form so large a proportion of their population. In

these conferences General Sikorski answered all questions frankly and fully, as he had done at the Overseas Press luncheon where he told his hearers that "There are no indiscreet questions,—only indiscreet replies."

After a brief rest General Sikorski left for Mexico as the guest of President Camacho and was successful in making arrangements for the reception of 20,000 Polish refugees who will be settled in the vicinity of Mexico City. It had been the intention of the General to spend a few days in New Orleans on his way back to Washington but his return was hastened by the renewal of German terror in Poland and the progress made by the invaders in the extermination of Jews brought to Poland from all over Europe and of the Polish nation itself. After a last conference with President Roosevelt, General Sikorski went to New York where he was given an official reception by the city on January 9th and addressed an open air meeting in front of the City Hall in reply to Mayor La Guardia's speech of welcome and farewell.

General Sikorski's visit to America had lasted forty days and achieved results of great importance to the prosecution of the war and, as Mayor La Guardia said "to the complete restoration of the rights and territory that belong to Poland."

## HOSTAGES TO DIE

On Sunday morning, Jan. 10th the German authorities in Warsaw covered the walls with posters saying that, in view of the increasing number of German soldiers attacked and killed in the capital, two hundred Poles had been arrested as hostages and would be shot in reprisal. They were specially chosen by the German authorities, as suspects of being active in underground resistance to the Germans.

## GERMANY SHORT OF MAN-POWER

Turkish sources reveal that Germany, since the Allied landing in North Africa, has withdrawn half a million workers from war industry and incorporated them into the army. They are being replaced by skilled workers from France, Norway and Poland. In Polish cities street raids are being organized on a wide scale and the arrested men are sent to the Reich, for forced labor.

The S.S. paper "Das Schwarze Korps" violently attacks Poles and Jews, working in the Reich, reproaching them for constantly taking advantage of the inattention of the overseers "scratching their heads, blowing their noses, so that their work appears like a slow motion film."

A German special court in Wloclawek sentenced a Polish peasant, Szczepan Dudzinski of Kolo, to death for injuring a local Volksdeutscher.

V.V.V.

German exploitation of the Ciechanow district is thorough. In 1940, 116,000 tons of grain and in 1942, 157,000 tons of grain, were exported to the Reich.

V.V.V.

An administrative course for 250 Volksdeutsche has been opened in Piotrkow. These candidates for the posts of mayors and bailiffs are to replace deported Poles.

V.V.V.

Out of 89,000 Jews in Slovakia, 66,000 have been deported to Eastern Poland. Some of them succeeded in escaping to Hungary, but it is feared that the rest are doomed to extermination.

V.V.V.

Germans who had become Polish citizens and who under the pretext of "working for the German minority" acted as traitors to Poland in 1939 are being presented with new German distinctions.

Troschke, the notorious commander of the Oswiecim Concentration Camp, has been simultaneously entrusted with the Office of Custodian of the Cracow Museum, historical relics and monuments!

V.V.V.

German official reports state that in the Government General in November, twenty percent more people were incorporated for forced labor than in October, and 26,543 workers were sent to Germany.

V.V.V.

According to information reaching Turkey, black market prices in Warsaw last December were: butter 180 zlotys a kilo; bacon, 160; sugar, 90; milk, twelve zlotys a litre; eggs, five zlotys apiece.

V.V.V.

Four Poles were executed in Katowice. Franciszek Czudek and Franciszek Kwasnicki from Cieszyn, Wladyslaw Stryczek from Miedza and Piotr Ksen from Zombkowie. All were accused of anti-German activities.

V.V.V.

The Aftonbladet reports that in Estonia Germans began a new enrollment of "volunteers" for the

eastern front. In reality it is practically a mobilization of all men up to 35 who are being incorporated into a S.S. Legion in Estonia.

V.V.V.

The German Arbeit Front publishes a communique saying that "Two million Poles and Russians came to the Reich in 1942 for work" and added that a further hundred thousand workers from the East are expected in the Reich.

V.V.V.

Governor General Frank has issued a decree that all Germans in the Government General are liable for auxiliary service for "purposes of unusual political importance." Governor General Lohse issued a similar decree for the so-called Ostland.

V.V.V.

A German special court in Bydgoszcz has sentenced the Poles Antoni Szliben, Marjan Bebnista, and Lukasz Pszczola of Naklo to five years severest Straflager Camp for having disturbed a prohitler manifestation organized by the Volksdeutsche in Naklo in April 1939 five months before the war!



# The Polish Review

NEW YORK, N. Y.

VOL. III, No. 4

JANUARY 25, 1943

*Weekly Magazine Published by*

THE POLISH INFORMATION CENTER

151 East 67th Street, New York, N. Y.

Annual Subscription Four Dollars

Single Copy Ten Cents

## GENERAL SIKORSKI AND MAYOR LA GUARDIA



*Press Association, Inc.*

*General Wladyslaw Sikorski, Polish Prime Minister and Commander-in-Chief, listening to Mayor La Guardia's Address of Welcome in front of New York's historic City Hall on Saturday, January 9th, 1943. In bidding General Sikorski an impressive farewell, the Mayor of the Empire City pledged America to "speak up at the proper time for the complete restoration of the rights and territory that belonged to Poland."*



# EIGHTY YEARS AGO

New York Press Reports the Polish Insurrection



"1863" BY JACEK MALCZEWSKI

DURING nearly a century and a half of partition, the spirit of insurrection kept the Polish cause alive in the conscience of mankind! Each succeeding generation revolted and sought to strike off its chains. In the annals of Polish history 1794, 1830, 1846, 1863, 1905 are years stained with the blood of Polish patriots who died by the thousands that their country might be free.

January 22nd marks the 80th anniversary of one of Poland's bloodiest risings—the insurrection of 1863 against the Czar. The revolt, long smouldering, was touched off by the forcible recruiting of Polish youth for the Russian army. Ill prepared and poorly armed, the Poles were bound to fail. Yet, they held out against overwhelming numbers and superior force of arms for more than a year, not only in Central Poland but in the Eastern provinces as well. It was not until August 1864 that the Russians captured the last leader of the insurrection, Romuald Traugutt, and hanged him at Warsaw, with the other members of the National Government. Ruthless repression of the revolt and mass deportation to Siberia caused the Poles to abandon for a time their efforts to win their independence back by open revolution, and made them masters in the type of underground resistance so effectively practised in Poland today.

The insurrection of 1863 did not pass unnoticed. France, England, and Austria sought to intervene on Poland's behalf. There was even talk of a European war for Poland. But the Czar had signed an anti-Polish agreement with Prussia, and under the auspices of Bismarck the two Powers rejected all foreign attempts at intervention.

Curiously enough, the "forlorn hope" insurrection of 1863 in distant Poland, had deep repercussions in the United States, then in the throes of civil war. In their work "*The Polish Insurrection of 1863 in the Light of New York Editorial Opinion*" (Bayard Press, 1934), Arthur Prudden Coleman and Marion Moore Coleman presented a thorough and fascinating analysis of editorial comment in contemporary New York papers. In nine of the leading New York dailies for 1863, the Colemans found 249 editorials dealing with the Polish insurrection or with events having considerable bear-

ing upon it. The following quotations are culled from the 131 pages of the Coleman study.

The immediate reaction of the New York dailies to news of the Polish uprising was two-fold:

(1) Relief that something had occurred in Europe that would divert the attention of Napoleon III from the American to the European continent and (2) hearty sympathy with what they realized was a lost cause.

The *Sun's* editorial of February 14th was typical: "It appears that the Poles, stung to madness by a forced military conscription which penetrated families and seized husbands, sons and brothers at the discretion of the police, turned upon their oppressors and killed them. The insurrection spread rapidly, but as it was destitute of order and unity of action, the result may be easily anticipated, though it is doubtful whether it has been suppressed as easily as the Russians represent. The Poles who fled to the woods may form the nucleus of armies destined to shatter Russia and all the thrones of Europe. If the fatal phrase 'order reigns in Warsaw' fails in its full significance, we may reasonably hope

that the news of Poland being in arms may arouse once more the Democracies of Europe to a diversion in favor of that country and ours."

The signing of an anti-Polish convention by the Plenipotentiaries of the Czar and King of Prussia on February 8th 1863 was reported to the New York press early in March. With one accord the New York press denounced the action of the King of Prussia. The Polish insurrection that until February 8th had been an internal question of the Russian Empire, was at once recognized by the New York press as a matter of general European concern.

The *Tribune* admitted on March 2nd that the Polish Question had become the most important problem in Europe. Its editor noted that both Garibaldi and Victor Hugo had given their blessing to the insurrection, as a revolutionary movement of the first rank in which even from a military point of view the Polish revolutionists were apparently meeting with surprising success.

On March 7th, the *Herald* in a long article "Complications produced by the Polish Revolution" wrote: "To us the Polish insurrection is fraught with immense importance. It puts an end to all probability of forcible intervention by any European Power, and thus brings home to the rebels the fact that alone and unaided they must face the overwhelming power and resources of our government."

The *Times* agreed with the *Herald* on this score. It stated on March 13th: "This insurrection probably wards off all danger of foreign intervention in our affairs. Whatever Napoleon III may have wished to do on this side of the Atlantic and whatever he might have tried to do under other circumstances, he will probably be compelled to look out mainly for his own security. An attempt to crush liberty and establish monarchy in Mexico and to overthrow the Republic of the United States and establish a slaveholding despotism on its ruins, will be rather more than he can manage while the sounds of a Polish rebellion are echoing in the ears of the French nation. His philanthropic purposes on this continent must be postponed."

On April 7th word was received in New York of the capture of Langiewicz, leader of the insurrection. The *Herald* alone interpreted his defeat as the end of the revolution. The *Spectator* was so certain that this was not the end, that on April 30th it urged its readers to make a hearty response to the appeal of the Polish Committee for the aid of their suffering relatives in Poland.

The month of April saw the start of the great diplomatic game that was to set all the chancelleries of Europe on edge. The Polish insurrection became the Polish question, and threatened to provoke a general European war.

On April 10th a joint note was dispatched by England, France and Austria to the court of St. Petersburg protesting against Russia's policy in Poland. On May 2nd Gorchakoff, the Czar's Foreign Minister, replied that the Polish rising was the work of foreign revolutionaries. On June 11th, the famous six point note was delivered to Russia by the three powers. On June 25th Gorchakoff replied that Russia could not treat with the Poles until they surrendered. On July 17th the Poles rejected the six points as unsatisfactory. On August 17th the Powers presented three separate notes denying that the uprising was anything but national. On September 12th Russia gave notice that her stand could not be shaken.

Throughout this period the New York press remained sympathetic to the Poles. "If the Poles can hold out," said the *Times* on May 4th, "they will have offered the last and crowning proof of their title to stand in the foremost ranks

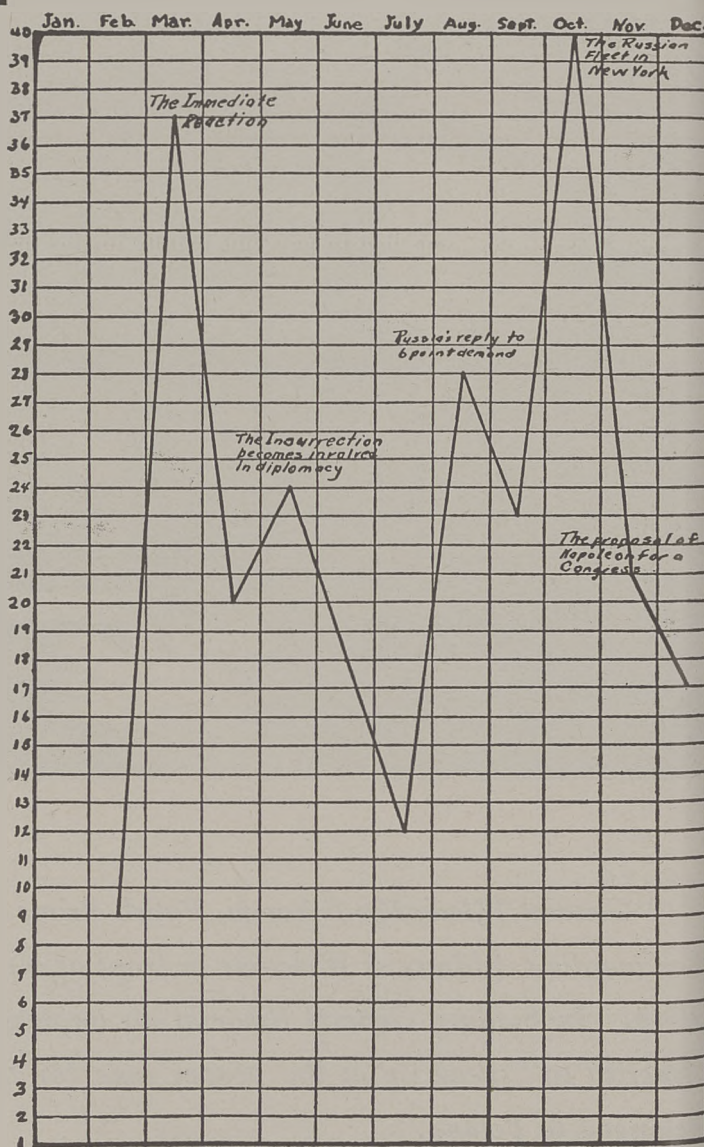


CHART SHOWING NUMBER OF EDITORIALS TOUCHING ON THE POLISH QUESTION IN NEW YORK DAILIES, 1863



"THE INSURGENTS" BY ARTUR GROTTER

of patriots and martyrs. . . . The Poles are unconquered and apparently unconquerable." But the *Times* believed that the Powers would be beaten at the game of diplomacy and the Poles left to fight their battles alone.

On the 20th of April, for the first time, the *Tribune* felt the military operations of the revolution sufficiently important to warrant a summary of them editorially. And it reflected the prevailing view when it concluded, "All the partial successes which are claimed for the Poles are, however, we fear, not sufficient to make their final success probable. The numerical preponderance of the Russians is still as it was at the outbreak of the war, overwhelming. The spreading of the revolution may, however, have the good effect that it will strengthen the diplomatic intercession of other European Powers on behalf of the brave Polish people."

On May 15th, the *Post* asked "Is the Peace of Europe in Danger?" and went on to say, "Meanwhile Poland struggles on; the Poles keep up the war and if they do not beat, they do at any rate gain time." The *Post* was convinced that popular sentiment in France would express itself so strongly in favor of the Polish cause in the forthcoming elections, that Napoleon III would be forced to intervene with force of arms.

During this period, every paper, in some way or other, linked the struggle in Poland with the American Civil War.

Why, queried the *Post* angrily on June 2nd, in "A Demand for Consistency," have the British not recognized the Poles as belligerents when they have an army in the field, have won numerous engagements and are fighting to throw off the yoke of an oppressor . . . when they recognized the South as

(Please turn to page 10)



# Mass Murder Under the Guise of Deportation

A REGISTRATION of all foreign Jews in Warsaw was carried out on July 17th, 1942, and they were then interned in the *Pawiak* prison. On July 20th, the task of guarding the ghetto bounds was turned over to the security battalions consisting of *Lithuanians*, *Latvians*, *Ukrainians* and certain Soviet prisoners of war of these nationalities, as well as of Russian "whites." After this the Polish police performed only auxiliary service at the exit gates. This change marked the end of smuggling between the ghetto and the rest of *Warsaw*, while the number of Jews shot at the boundaries increased. The guards opened fire at windows of houses adjacent to the ghetto walls. Large forces of German police, with machine-guns, were posted at every exit, German police on motor-cycles patrolled the ghetto walls day and night. These preparations were watched by ghetto inhabitants with feelings of dread and terror.

On the morning of July 21st, German police drove up to the building of the *Jewish Council* in *Grzybowska* Street. The S.S. officers ordered the chairman of the *Jewish Council*, *Mr. Czerniakow*, to summon the members of the Council. On their arrival they were all arrested and carried off to *Pawiak* prison. After a short detention, the majority were released. About the same time police cars drove into the ghetto streets. Uniformed Germans broke into the houses, looking for members of the Jewish intellectual class, and killing them on the spot, in their homes, not troubling to identify them. Among those thus killed was a non-Jew, Professor *Raszej*, who was visiting the ghetto with an official pass, in the course of his medical duties. At the same time round-ups were made in the streets, only the better-dressed people being detained. These passers-by and members of the *Jewish Council* who were detained were held as hostages.

Again next day, police cars drove up to the *Jewish Council* building. When those members of the Council who had been released were assembled, an order on the "trans-settlement of the Jewish population of Warsaw" was dictated to them. The essential details were given in a placard afterwards posted up. The number to be deported daily was 6,000. These persons were to be assembled in the building of the hospital on *Starwki* Street, which was to be emptied for the purpose at once. They were then to be taken to the "transshipment" point at *Starwki* Street, where there were railway sidings used for the ghetto official trade and industries. Persons subject to deportation were to be handed over by the Jewish civil police every day before four p.m., the first contingent to be supplied that same day, July 22nd, at 11 o'clock. The members of the *Jewish Council* together with the arrested hostages would answer with their heads for the strict fulfilment of the order. At the request of the Germans, the first persons to be assembled for deportation that same day were those held in the Jewish prison, shelters, etc.

At seven p.m. two uniformed Germans again arrived at the building of the *Jewish Council*. They demanded to see *Mr. Czerniakow*. Shortly after they left his office he com-

mitted suicide. The subject of their conversation is not exactly known for *Czerniakow* said nothing to anybody about it before his death. But, from the notes he left and also a letter to his wife it appears that he had been ordered to produce not six thousand but ten thousand people for deportation the following day, and thereafter at the rate of 7,000 a day. After his death *Mr. Lichtenbaum*, an engineer, became chairman of the Jewish Council.

Next day ten thousand people were in fact assembled at the transshipment point, and 7,000 every day thereafter. The quota was made up of people taken from their homes or rounded up in the streets. In order to encourage the Jewish police to greater activity the Germans provided them with safe-conducts stamped with the German police stamp, which freed from deportation not only their wives and children excluded from deportation by the order, but other relations as well.

As the order also excluded from deportation all workers in the large German-owned enterprises, together with their families, there was considerable competition among the inhab-

itants of the ghetto to obtain work in these enterprises, or certificates stating that they worked there. Sums running into thousands of zlotys were paid for such certificates, the money being pocketed by the German owners of the works, etc. It later transpired that not only these certificates of employment, but even the safe-conducts given to the Jewish police had no real value, for the Germans did not respect them and, despite their own order, arbitrarily deported anybody and everybody regardless of what papers they held.

Deportation was carried out more and more brutally every day, and after some days the Germans them-

selves actively engaged in the work, with the aid of the guards, independently of the Jewish police. The Germans cordoned off a whole block of houses, entered the courtyard and opened fire. This was intended as a signal for everybody to leave their homes and assemble in the yard. Anyone who failed to get out quickly enough, or who tried to hide, was killed on the spot. All infirm, old and crippled people were killed in their homes. No consideration was shown for families, wives were torn from their husbands, and even quite small children from their mothers.

At the transshipment point, the Germans separated any old and infirm who had escaped so far, took them straight to the Jewish cemetery, and killed them there. Every day between sixty and a hundred persons were disposed of in this way. The others were packed into goods trucks, 120 people being crushed into trucks for forty. The people choked from lack of air, but the trucks were sealed up and the trains set out. The floors of the trucks were covered with quicklime and chlorine. The route taken by such a train was marked by the bodies alongside the lines. The deportees were carried off to three execution camps, at *Treblinka*, *Belzec* and *Sobibor*. Here the trains were unloaded, the condemned were stripped naked and then killed, probably by poison gas or electrocution.

(Please turn to page 14)



WARSAW JEWS USED AS HORSES BY THE GERMANS



# ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING IN POLAND

THE electrical industry really sprang into being in Poland after the last war. There were but few plants before 1914: one manufacturing electric bulbs, another installation material, another telegraph and telephone equipment, as well as a number of smaller enterprises.

Following the war, factories fairly mushroomed. Electric factories, medium sized and small shops in all branches of the industry, began to appear.

To a great extent Polish electrical production was based on international patents. The industry was centralized in Warsaw. Other important centers were Lodz, Katowice and, in lesser degree, Poznan, Krakow and Lwow.

The electrical industry manufactured virtually all electric products: Electric machines and dynamos, for alternating and direct current; transformers and electric equipment with voltages up to 150,000; cable and wire, bulbs, Bergman tubes, accumulators, batteries and installation material for power and light.

Production of radio receiving sets and radio parts kept pace with the manufacture of electrical equipment. And a successful newcomer to Polish electrical engineering was automobile equipment.

Polish electrical industry was able to satisfy most needs for power and light installations, and part of those for the construction of electrical power plants. The high quality of Polish production enabled it to compete with imported foreign goods.

Production in the electrical industry grew very rapidly. By 1934 it surpassed the 1928 level. Taking 1928 as 100 in electrical production, 1935 was 174.1; 1936—232.3 and 1937—308.8. In 1936 Polish production was valued at about 130 million zlotys, imports at about 37 million zlotys; in 1937 production was 156 million zlotys and imports 39 million zlotys. In 1932, domestic production was equal to imports, from then on the balance in favor of domestic production was equal to imports.

Employees of Polish electrical manufacturing plants were trained in elementary and secondary schools. Higher specialized education could be obtained in the polytechnics. Evening supplementary courses were always popular.

Although the Polish electrical industry was so young, shortly before the war it made its debut on the world market, and found itself competing with countries having long established exporting traditions.

Foreign capital, mainly Swedish, Dutch and Czech, was invested in thirty-seven Polish electrical corporations.

Polish production of bulbs, underground cables, electric wire, radio lamps was controlled by international cartels.

The Polish electrical industry was grouped in the "*Polish Union of Electrical Manufacturers*" and in the "*Polish Union*



HIGH-TENSION GRID IN POLAND

*of Mechanical Manufacturers*," both in Warsaw. The "*Polish Association of Electrical Engineers*" in Warsaw was in charge of electric standards and research activity and served as a clearing office for information on government regulations. Power plants had their own "*Union of Power Plants*" with headquarters in Warsaw. The installation industry was organized by districts.

Thus, from both the point of view of production and organization Polish electrical engineering was on its way to become an important branch of the Polish industrial world. Then in September 1939 the treacherous hand of Germany pulled the switch and plunged Poland into darkness. But after three and one-half years, the nights are growing shorter. Soon now Poland's undaunted patriots will be able to say "*Fiat lux!*" and Polish dynamos will hum again bringing sunshine and light into every Polish home.

Polish electrical engineers abroad have formed a branch of the *Polish Association of Electrical Engineers* and are hard at work on plans for the development of the electric industry in post-war Poland and the electrification of their motherland.



# THE JOURNEY TO THE PAST

by J. H. RINGER\*

to me, I will find them myself." . . . "And, Joseph, the knife of the fratricide, is it hanging still?" . . . "Wait, wait, let me remember." . . . "Boris, this was a time which you, more lucky, will never know." . . . "Forty years since I have been here, but tonight it seems to me as if I had left it only yesterday. Forty years!" The night was advancing, and remembering his tiring journey I suggested returning to the hotel. "Not yet, Joseph, let me see the Barbican." "But Jessie—" "No, this is my homecoming."

Never before was it so clear in my mind that Conrad, with all his strange adventures, his achievements, his fame, and his genius, was after all nothing else than what I am—a Pole, who had been bored in his native town, but who had veneration for it.

When I look back at that moment every detail stands clearly in my mind. Sharply outlined against the cold rays of the moon, the blue shadows of the twin towers falling in drastic lines on the place, broken on their way by the contours of smaller grey buildings. The silence around is as complete as it sometimes happens in small towns, when everybody is in bed, and beasts and animals do not dare to break the spell. I see Conrad standing at the corner of the place in his greyish suit, an old-fashioned bowler hat on his head, awry as in moments of excitement. Boris in his heavy spectacles, with an eager face, listening to his father and myself, deeply impressed that I am witnessing such a scene.

Conrad was a temperamental man who in a few moments could pass through a whole gamut of visible emotions. Here in this ancient city of his forefathers, his emotion became calm and silent. First he talked incessantly to his son, then in Polish a few words to me, and now he became silent. Slowly we walked back. At the entrance to the hotel, he kissed me on both cheeks, the ancient Polish custom, which I had never seen him do before, and which in fact he held in detestation. I swear he did it unconsciously, automatically. And then we separated for the night.

. . . The Wawel is the hill towering above Cracow on which stand the buildings most precious to a Pole. It is the most memorable soil in Poland. It is the symbol of everything Polish. Before Poland regained independence it used to be the one great fact that Poland had been great and free. It contains the castle of the Kings of Poland, the oldest cathedral church, the most ancient building in the country. There rest the remains of all Polish Kings and many of the great men of Poland. It is her heart!

. . . And so Conrad, after forty years, was showing it to his wife and son.

They wandered everywhere, peering into dark crypts where kings, statesmen, and poets are buried; they knelt before the ancient dark crucifix of the Queen Jadwiga. In one of the majestic chapels, all gold and lace-like sculpture, a Mass was being read. Jessie bowed her head and, an indifferent Protestant, joined in the prayers of the Catholic religion, overcome with sentiment and emotion.

During those hours of our pilgrimage, Conrad remained in an attitude of astonished and deep emotion. Besides a few words of comment to his wife and sons, he kept mostly silent as if he were listening to some unspoken words. . . . The past was talking to him . . . and to him alone. . . .

He made no attempt to conceal his emotion. As we emerged from the cool interior of the cathedral he said to me: "Dear Joseph, it is a great happiness to me that at last I have come here with my wife and sons and have shown them that *il y a quelque chose derrière moi*."

And in this saying was the real soul of Conrad, his true sentimental entanglement. At that moment Conrad realized that everything he achieved, glory, writing masterpieces, his sailor prowesses, he had done because there had been a background to him, an ancient culture—a spirit behind him, the spirit which erected Wawel, which made that, through all vicissitudes, his country was still alive.

. . . The whole day we roamed around Cracow. We saw the ancient churches, the venerable seats of learning, we strolled through narrow streets, looked at faded pictures, took in the far vistas on the banks of the Vistula River, contemplated the statues of old builders of Poland. And everywhere we went the spirit of the past preceded us—and our conversations were tuned to the old echoes. Thus we spent the first day of Conrad's return to his country, recalling memories of the past. To an old man returning famous and celebrated to his country, to a country which he left in his youth, poor and without any prospects, everything must seem smaller, more modest, and more insignificant. It seems to him that his native town has grown older. But on Conrad the town of Cracow made a contrary impression. When he left it in his youth it had been but an unimportant provincial town (with hidden beauties and secrets), where the relics of a splendid past lay neglected in the dust. While he was away the old cathedral was restored, the castle given back to the people, the streets paved, the vast grounds changed into smart public gardens. Conrad's pride in the past was enhanced by his pleasure in the present.



ST. MARY'S CHURCH IN CRACOW  
BY F. TOPOLSKI



FLORIAŃSKA STREET IN  
SKI



JOSEPH CONRAD BY F. TOPOLSKI

And another happy revenant of the past was there to increase his enjoyment. When in the evening we were returning to the Grand Hotel we heard in the street an elderly man crying out in astonishment, "My little Conrad—Konradku." Conrad turned his head, hesitated one second, and then calling "Konstanty" fell into the arms of the stranger. It was his old friend and school-fellow Konstanty Buszczyński, who recognized Conrad after forty years. There followed a lengthy emotional torrent of reminiscences and memories of souvenirs which had faded a long time ago, of people who had been dead for years.

Thus we spent one day, one whole day in the past. And the day was the 1st of August, 1914. The day of the Austrian mobilization, the day on which War finally became an

existing fact leading to four years of horror and misery.

Indeed, for those around us the only thing that seemed real was the War, the only problem was the one of the future. While for us—for this one short day—the only things which seemed worth while were the shadows of the past, and our only companions were the ghosts of forgotten days.

It seemed fateful that Conrad returned to Poland on the only date which hid in its bosom the unfulfilled dreams of his fathers, the coming freedom of his country.



JOSEPH CONRAD  
BY F. TOPOLSKI

WE reached Cracow on the evening of August 1, 1914, on the very day that Austria mobilized.

. . . After dinner, Jessie and John, tired with the strenuous journey, retired to bed, while Conrad, accompanied by Boris and myself, went out to renew his acquaintance with the old city. I wanted to take them straight to the central square, the famous "Rynek." "No, my dear Joseph," said Conrad, "I want to see Rynek as I have remembered it all these years, as one sees it from the side view of the Florian Gate under the shadow of the Church of the Holy Virgin." And without hesitation, after forty years of absence, he chose his way in the meander of narrow streets and broad public squares, and conducted us with certain step to the appointed place, whence we slowly approached the Rynek. At its entrance in the shadow of the majestic Church of the Holy Virgin we stopped, awaiting the call of the bugle (Hejnal) which has marked the hours for over six hundred years. Conrad, proud of his memory, with pious zeal, explained to Boris that this call celebrates the death of a bugler, who in the thirteenth century was stationed to watch out for a possible attack from marauding Tartar bands. He saved the city by giving the signal, but fell transpierced by an enemy's arrow.

Then Conrad conducted us around the town, showing to his son the reliques of the past, and finally brought him to the house where he lived some forty years before. There we stood for a considerable time. Conrad ceased talking to his son, he was obviously living again in Cracow, returning in spirit to moments he forgot for forty years, back in his youngster's days. From time to time he dropped a phrase in Polish: "Where are those ancient chains, which formerly marked the outlets of the streets?" . . . "No, don't show them

\* From "CONRAD AND HIS CONTEMPORARIES," Souvenirs by J. H. Ringer. Drawings by Feliks Topolski. Roy, Publishers, New York, N. Y.



(Continued from page 5)

a belligerent less than a month after the bombardment of Fort Sumter and weeks before the American Ambassador could reach London?

On June 11th the *Spectator* attacked France and Great Britain for the same reason.

The *Sun* on June 15th expressed its amazement at the newly established Polish National Government and its hold over all the people of Poland, even the peasants. Two weeks later it stated, "While the three Powers deliberate, the Polish War progresses with great spirit and animosity on both sides. All the efforts to crush the insurgents have only tended to fan the flame, and every day increases the extent and strength of their insurrection. The world has scarcely deemed it possible for the Poles to hold out so long unaided, but it is evident that the intestine divisions in Russia consequent upon the emancipation of the serfs, have seriously impaired the offensive powers of the Czar, and thus aided the cause of Poland."

On July 31st, editorializing about Gorchakoff's answer to the six-point demand of the Powers, the *Sun* wrote, "That the other Powers can avoid being drawn into the contest is doubtful, and there is, therefore, every ground for anticipating a European war on the Polish question, with a chance for a grand revolution that shall tumble all the thrones into nothingness."

But by September it became clear that Poland would receive no aid beyond the comfort of words. The *Journal of Commerce* felt the Poles would give in "only when pushed to the last extremity."

Toward the end of September the Russian fleet visited New York harbor. New York greeted the Russians warmly. Russia had been virtually the only country consistently to recognize the Union. Her relations with America had been friendly. As a matter of fact the Polish insurrection placed the State Department in a dilemma. Secretary of State Seward best expressed it when he said he "hopes that Napoleon III appreciates the value of our traditional sympathy for Poland on the one hand, and our ancient friendship for Russia on the other."

The visit of the Russian fleet occasioned much editorial comment with references to the Polish question. The *Times* and the *Journal of Commerce* were the only leading New York dailies not to join in the universal chorus of welcome for the Russians. The *Times* was silent, while the *Journal of Commerce* was distinctly cool.

Plans were laid for a mammoth ball to be given at the Academy of Music in honor of the Russians. But gradually editorial enthusiasm for the visitors waned. The *Post's* editor on October 5th warned against concluding from the fervor of the popular demonstration to the Russian officers, that Americans approved the oppressive government and the whole tyrannical system of the Czarist regime. It is not, he affirmed, for that reason that we receive them so warmly, but simply because they are a people with whom we have long had ties of sympathy, and, most important of all, they have been friendly to us when no one else was.

The ball took place on November 5th. The *Times* and the *Tribune* withheld editorial comment on it. The *World*, the *Journal of Commerce*, and the *Post* came out with scathing comments on the affair.

The *World* in its long editorial felt "our attentions were both disproportionate and misplaced if they could possibly be intended as a demonstration in the face of Europe of friendship to the Czarist government. Most assuredly we do not intend to say to Europe that we regard our contest with the South as resembling that of Russia against Poland. No! We are fighting against the dismemberment of a nation;

Russia was a party to the dismemberment of the nation that is now struggling to break her shackles. The partition and appropriation of Poland was the greatest crime in modern history and is so regarded by all liberal men in Europe. May the day be far distant when Americans especially shall cease to revere the memory of Kosciuszko! . . ."

The *Journal of Commerce* rebuked the sponsors of the Ball in three separate editorials. Immediately after the affair it wrote: "About the same time that a good many people occupied themselves last evening at the Academy of Music with music and dancing in honor of the Russian officers, there were men and women and children perishing in dungeons or under the sharp hand of despotism in Poland, because they had dreamed of liberty." On November 9th it reiterated, "We are on the most pleasant terms with Russia, but we cannot shut our eyes to the dreary strings of exiles being sent by the Czar to the snowy steppes of Siberia." Finally, on November 19th, it levelled its last accusation: "There is no crime of European government so great as the dismemberment of Poland! There has been no page of history more bloody, none more black with crime and wrong than that which records the Czarist treatment of the Poles." Then, reviewing the story of Poland's disgraceful treatment at Vienna in 1815, and the famous guarantee of nationality, made only to be broken, the editor recalled that the Powers stood by while this violation was flagrantly going on and did nothing, "lest the peace of Europe be disturbed!" "Well," he adds, "it is disturbed now!" "Ever and anon, when the peace of death seems to have settled on unhappy Poland, we are roused by a strong cry, like the voice of 'some strong swimmer in his agony' coming across the sea. Until now America has never refused to listen to it. Now it comes and finds our men drinking wine, our women dancing with the Czar's armed men and the sound of the revelry with which we receive them drowns the despairing voice of the countrymen of Kosciuszko. . . ."

A surprising about face in editorial opinion took place in the *New York Herald*. Having welcomed the Russians most warmly only a month earlier, now on November 12th it addressed "a few sensible words" to those "who have made themselves so farcically ridiculous during the recent performances." "We have always shown more enthusiasm than common sense in our hospitality to foreigners. . . . So upon the arrival of the Russian fleet we were seized with a Russian mania. We indulged in banquets, speeches, we even went so far as to compare Czar Alexander with Lincoln. . . . If the Czar has any sympathy to spare let him expend it upon the Poles, who have groaned for half a century under his iron yoke, and have been deprived of all their natural and national rights except the right of being sent to Siberia."

On November 18th the *Herald* went so far as to say, "Nowhere more than in this country will Napoleon III meet with encouragement when he commences his campaign against the Russians. We have always sympathized with the unhappy Poles . . . and when we hear that Napoleon III intends to make war on Russia in order to gain the freedom of Poland, he has our best wishes."

Napoleon III did not make war on Russia. Instead, he proposed a Congress and met a diplomatic Waterloo.

Editorial comment on the Polish Insurrection came to a close in 1863 on a hopeful note. The editor of the *Tribune* in an article printed on December 28th, asserted that the attitude of the Powers, each with its own axe to grind, each refusing to attend the Congress proposed by Napoleon III, gave comfort to the liberal party everywhere. It was increasingly clear, the editor felt, that only by applying the principles of Democracy could a lasting solution be found for the Polish, the Italian, the Turkish and the German questions.



# "POLAND"

by ARTHUR SZYK

ARTHUR SZYK, the well-known Polish artist, is working on a United Nations Series of Miniatures. Several of these paintings are on display at the Arthur Szyk exhibition, sponsored by the Writers' War Board, at the André Seligmann Galleries, 15 East 57th Street, New York City. The opening on January 6th was attended by Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt.

The miniature of "Poland" reproduced here depicts Wladyslaw Jagiello, King of Poland, who crushed the Germans in 1410. The King is clad in sumptuous raiment inspired by dress of the 15th century.

On Jagiello's left shoulder is seen the Polish coat of arms, with the Jagiellonian eagle; on his right shoulder is "Pursuit", the Lithuanian coat of arms, while his chest is decorated with the highest award of modern Poland, the *Virtuti Militari*. The King's shield shows the coat of arms of modern Poland and around it words from Poland's unofficial anthem "The Nation's Oath."

At Jagiello's feet lies the helmet of a German Knight of the Cross with a Polish axe driven into it. The proverb on the axe "The Polish axe cleaves German backs" dates from 1410. The fallen Knight's name, Dippold Kiekeritz von Dieben, engraved on his armor, shows him to be the Teutonic Knight who came within an inch of slaying Jagiello at the Battle of Grunwald. Around Dippold's shield are the German words "Thou Shalt Not Be Spared the People's Anger."



At the top of the picture on the right, we see Polish cavalry from Tobruk and Polish airplanes. On the left the Lithuanian coat of arms, a knight pursuing the fleeing foe, is repeated.

Above in the top left hand the dedication reads: "To the Polish Nation from the American Nation in Brotherhood of Arms."



# ... "WHEN A GENERAL STANDS ATTENTION BEFORE A PRIVATE"

by JGITLIN



POLISH LANCERS (MOTORIZED) ON PARADE

A FIRST class lancer, Jan Nadzieja (John Hope), was given a two-day rest leave. On a beautiful Scotch autumn day, he left the barracks and walked far beyond the city and the forest to where the boundless fields of grain were rustling and where the spreading meadows cut a broad ribbon against the horizon. Here he could see the paths weaving through the freshly ploughed fields. Here he could forget, for a moment at least, his uniform, the war, his wanderings far from Poland. Here it was like home, like his beloved Podole in Poland.

Jan Nadzieja, or Jan Hope, a moment ago a soldier, was now a worker in the field who loved his dear soil above all the treasures of the earth. He stretched out luxuriously on the tall grass that covered the meadow. He turned on his back, covered his eyes with his cap, pulled up his legs and—gazed on his village in Poland. Time passed, the soldier was dozing off—a cow moored, and Jan Nadzieja seeing in this an obvious sign of recognition got up and slapped "Magda" the cow on her broad back. He caressed her moist nose, looked at her tenderly and murmured to himself with satisfaction: "There'll be a calving soon." Briskly he spit on his palms, seized the handles of his plow and started off. "Phiuuuu" he whistled at his greys. The rich brown earth turned and crumbled behind the sharp shares.

The high noon heat passed. "Hmm," Jan mumbled looking at the lowering sun, "our pastor isn't here yet." Just then the aged priest appeared from behind the tree with the figure of the Virgin that stood at the cross roads. The old man knelt down before it and crossed himself with a trembling hand. Stooping with age, he began, according to his custom, to walk between the fields, enquiring about the workers' health, their work and their land. In weak, lisping tones he gave them advice and thanked them. It was as if they were ploughing, sowing and gathering their crops for him. . . .

The appearance of this slight black figure, with hair white as milk, eyes blue as the sky, a thin back bent by the weight of years, and a kind, smiling face, was a sign to the workers in the fields that it was six o'clock and time for supper. . . . The people were leaving their fields; women let down their hitched up skirts, and the men lit their pipes. But the old priest, unable to free himself from the children and dogs that hung around him, stood helplessly amid all this squealing and barking, kissing and licking. The grown ups looked with pride at their old pastor. They feasted their eyes upon the beautiful picture of love, trust and spiritual fatherhood. Finally they all started from the fields meeting on the road that led to the village. The old priest led them, surrounded by the smaller children. The bigger boys closed the procession

leading the tired horses, while the younger boys tried to climb on the horses' black or chestnut backs. . . . The village was stretching below them. It looked so quiet and happy—there were their homes waiting. Smoke rose from the chimneys and disappeared high above. As the group approached the village, dogs ran out into the road and women appeared on the doorsteps. The hungry smell of cooking came from the open doors. Now started a friendly rivalry for the honor to play host to the old priest. The children raised a terrible clamor, each pulling the priest toward his own home. The puppies seeing this general good humor started their own concert. . . . and so the village looked like a place of a hundred weddings. . . .

John Hope, or Jan Nadzieja, son and heir of quite a large estate, with deep respect led the old priest into his home. First Jan bowed to his old father who was sitting on the doorstep, and after kissing his mother's hand he sat down to his meal. Marysia, his sister, was busy helping her mother while the men talked and frequently glanced toward the kitchen. They paid very close attention to what the old priest was saying. . . . "Well, my good man," said the priest to Senior Nadzieja, "it's time you married your son off to some good farmer's daughter. He's a fine boy and a good farmer." The aged father looked proudly at his son, and the mother only stopped and wiped her nose with her sleeve while her eyes brimmed with tears. "Yes, that's right. Father, the boy should marry. God willing we'll look around." "Hey, wait a minute dad, I can wait two more years or so. Let Marysia marry. She's a girl, and girls should marry first anyway. Besides I'm all right here." . . .

The sun was hot, and Nadzieja in his sleep adjusted the hat which had slipped off his eyes. After a while he turned on his side. Suddenly he heard a sound like the buzzing of a bee. At first he did not move and gave himself up to his dreams, but his reverie was broken by the stubborn buzzing that was becoming louder now. Slowly he was regaining his senses and finally opened his eyes to see a plane directly above. "Good Lord, one can't have peace even on such a day!" he muttered. He could neither fall asleep nor drop back into his reverie. Then the buzzing and metallic hum of the engine stopped entirely. Nadzieja scratched his elbow and grimacing lit a cigarette. He yawned and stretched out again. He looked up dreamily and the plane reappeared in the line of his vision. It was flying higher, but the left wing was drooping considerably and it left a trail of dark smoke stains that punctuated the clear, cloudless sky. Nadzieja, who still remained with parts of his mind in his beloved Podole in Poland, thought this to be his cigarette smoke. His heavy eyelids drooped over his eyes, and he would have fallen into slumber again if the plane had not decided to descend at a terrific speed roaring loudly at Nadzieja. John Nadzieja, frightened to death, jumped to his feet. He followed the plane which was now careening and emitting a steady stream of black smoke. The plane tried to gain altitude, but in vain. Jan saw an object, maybe a hand, appear above the central part of the craft. But the flame, now bursting from the engine, envel-

oped the whole plane in a fraction of a second. That object—or was it a hand—slowly sank and with a jerk disappeared into the flaming inferno. This ball of fire spun like a dervish, and then in a gentle spiral descended swiftly to the ground.

Jan Nadzieja instinctively started to run through the tall wheat. He swore at it, because the grain laden stalks hit his face. He got through with difficulty. He got to the machine just as it hit the ground. In the thick smoke that singed his eyes, pierced by the flaming tongues that greedily licked the combustible material, Nadzieja thrust his fist through the window of the burning hulk. He could scarcely see the pilot through the screen of smoke. He made out the limp figure hanging by one belt to his seat. Jan tussled with the pilot trying frantically to release him. At last he forced the lifeless arm under the belt, pulled it through under the belt and seized the freed pilot under the arms. With difficulty Jan pulled the heavy load out of the heated monster. He stumbled and crawled along the ground until exhausted by smoke and gas, and deaf from the explosion of the loaded guns, he fell on top of the senseless pilot.

"Somewhere in Scotland" . . . the first class lancer, Jan Nadzieja received the British Empire Medal for saving a British pilot from a burning plane. The investiture took place during military manoeuvres by General Sir George Cory, Chief of the liaison mission to the Allied armies. After the decoration ceremony, General Boruta-Spiechowicz, Commander of the 1st Corps said to the soldier: "There is a time in a soldier's life when a General stands at attention before a private, first class lancer, Jan Nadzieja. I do this gladly. May such moments occur often."



PRIVATE, LANCER AND SAILOR



# MASS MURDER UNDER THE GUISE OF DEPORTATION

(Continued from page 6)

For the purpose of burying the bodies a great steam shovel has been taken to *Treblinka*, and this machine works without stopping. The stench of the decomposing bodies has forced all the peasants for three miles around to flight. There are also camps at *Belzec* and *Sobibor*. It has not been possible to ascertain whether any of those carried off have been left alive. Available is information only of extermination. Out of the 250,000 people deported only two small transport trains, four thousand people altogether, were sent to work behind the front line (in the *Brzesc* and *Malachowicze* Sectors).

As a rule young and physically healthy people escaped this fate, because of their value as labor power, the main victims being the old and infirm, and children. All the children in the children's homes and shelters were carried off. Among these was an orphans' home run by *Janusz Korczak*, a well-known Polish writer. He refused to leave the children, though he would have been allowed to remain. He and the manageress of the home went with the children to the assembly point.

The deportations have been going on ever since July 22nd. Every day between three and ten thousand people are carried off. Those who are left convulsively cling to the faint hope that they may escape the fate of those who have gone.

By September 1st some 250,000 people had already been carried off. For the month of September 120,000 ration cards were printed, for October only 40,000.

According to information obtained from the German *Arbeitsamt* only 40,000 skilled workers are to be left in the ghetto, as suitable for German war production.

Meantime, the Germans were taking steps to murder off the Jews in smaller localities outside Warsaw. These murders take place under the very eyes of the Polish inhabitants, who were shocked to the depths of their souls. Children shot, pregnant women killed, people who attempt to run away and hide, hunted like animals, and hundreds of bodies in the streets, on the roads, along the railway lines, are seen by large numbers of Poles. The liquidation of the ghettos in *Falenica*, *Rembertow*, *Nowy Dwor*, *Kaluszyn*, and *Minsk Mazowiecki* was carried out during a lull in the deportation of Jews from the Warsaw ghetto at the end of August.

Any such attempt to give the people of America some idea of these unprecedented mass murders must begin by asking them to believe things that seem incredible. They must get it clearly in their minds that these things are true, the truth amid which Poles have to live and die. The facts are not hand-picked. They are facts of everyday existence in Poland. They are not isolated facts, everyone of them can be matched by tens and hundreds of similar facts every day.

Since July 22nd last, anywhere from several dozen to several hundred Jews have been murdered every day in *Warsaw*, by shooting, in the streets and houses. These murders are committed every day during round-ups of people who are carried off to be killed. Among the six to ten thousand people rounded up every day, for deportation, between

fifty and a hundred old people, cripples, and infirm are taken to the cemetery to be shot and buried.

If anyone has any doubt whether it would be possible to kill off five, six, or ten thousand people in one day, they can be convinced by thousands of witnesses at *Otwock*, *Rembertow*, *Siedlce*, *Minsk Mazowiecki*, *Lomza*, and many other localities. People at each of these places have seen anything from two to ten thousand people murdered in the course of a few hours.

That gives some idea of the mass scale of these murders. The brutality with which they are carried out is on the same level. These people carried off to death have to endure the maximum of suffering. Not less than a hundred people are packed into trucks suitable for forty. The trucks are sealed, the floors are covered with a thick layer of unslaked lime. Sometimes, in order that the effect of the lime shall be greater, the deportees are ordered to take off their boots and shoes.

To inflict further suffering on mothers, their children are torn from them. Orphanages are carried off in their entirety. The staffs do not abandon their children. But they can do no more when the moment comes for loading into trucks. The children are loaded into separate trucks, and the staffs are sent off by other trains.

For a German to shoot someone on the spot is regarded as an act of humanity, as is throwing anyone out of a sixth floor window. When one of the murderers throws a mother and her child out of the window on to the stones below, he evidently has a tender heart. Such incidents are noted by the dozen every day.

Some of the acts of brutality are horrible even amid such horror. A pregnant Jewess escaped from the ghetto, and took shelter in a house in the *Grochow* district of *Warsaw*, where she was protected by Poles, and gave birth to her child. But a German gendarme found her, shot her on the spot, and trampled the newly-born infant to death.

Suicides indicate despair of the people, suicides not only of individuals, but of whole families. By gas or by cyanide. Every day someone takes poison. Several people, even up to a score, will commit suicide in one hour. To prevent people taking poison the chemists' shops in the ghetto have all been closed. Numbers of people have gone mad. Some of the victims implore the guards to shoot them. But they have to pay for the privilege. The guards demand fees of a hundred zlotys for shooting.

*The cover shows the cross on the grave of Zygmunt Sierakowski, one of the leaders of the Polish Insurrection of 1863. The remains of this national hero rest on ancient Castle Hill in Wilno.*



# GERMAN PROPAGANDA

**A** NOTICEABLE change has recently taken place in the tone of German propaganda. Whereas Goebbels used to talk about German living space for a thousand years, now he is reduced to talking about a life and death struggle; instead of certain victory, he urges the German people to make every effort and every sacrifice as the war may be won or lost up to the very last hour of struggle.

Goebbels used to talk about the "conscious determination of Germany to wage war in order to dominate the world." He now says, "The war was started by Churchill with Roosevelt's connivance without any apparent reason whatsoever." Of Germany's unprovoked aggression against Poland on September 1st 1939, no word is said. Germany would like it forgotten, and evidently thinks the best way to make the world forget it is to exterminate the Polish people.

The revival of German terror West of the Bug River, with the wholesale deportation of Polish peasants, the removal of children to Germany as "blood donors," the murdering of all aged or infirm persons, the sending to forced labor in Germany or to labor battalions behind the Russian front of all valid men, is evidence that the Germans know what is coming.

Fear and despair are bad counsellors. But the Polish Government is well determined that not one German crime in Poland shall go unpunished, not a single murdered Pole shall remain unavenged, nor any alteration in the biological relationship between Poland and Germany shall be left unredressed.

## HONOR POLES WHO GOT 500TH, 501ST PLANES

London, Jan.—The Polish pilots who shot down the 500th and 501st enemy planes over Great Britain have been decorated by General Sikorski. They are Henryk Pietrzak who was awarded a silver cross "Virtuti Militari," and Zdzislaw Langhamer who was given the Cross of Valor for the third time.

The investitures took place in the Polish Embassy, in the presence of high ranking officers of Poland's armed forces, and of the British Air Force. The President of Poland addressed the Polish pilots, and after the ceremony, a large gathering of representatives of the British Press interviewed Pilots Pietrzak and Langhamer.

In this connection it may be recalled that recently it was a Polish bomber who dropped the 3,000,000th bomb that has been unloaded on Germany since the beginning of the war.

## POLES IN INDIA NOT FORGOTTEN AT CHRISTMAS

Bombay, Jan.—For the first time Polish refugees celebrated Christmas and New Year in India. Eight hundred orphans, as well as children of Polish soldiers in the Middle East, had a very pleasant Christmas in Nawanagar thanks to the kindness of the Maharanee, wife of the ruling Prince, who is now in London.

Her Highness was present on Christmas Eve when the children sang Christmas Carols and performed a "Jaselka" or nativity, as a tribute to the Maharanee. On the same occasion, many children received their first Communion.

Later, Polish Consul Stebelski addressed the children on the subject of life of Polish soldiers in Scotland, which aroused their great interest.

In the Karachi Camp, three thousand adults with some children had a celebration in the arrangements of which they were assisted by Lady Dow, wife of the Governor of the Province of Sind.

On Christmas Eve many high British and American officers and

## 269 GERMANS, 9 BRIDGES AND 4 TRAINS, OUT

Kuibyshev, Jan.—The Pravda publishes an article by Welski, saying "Germans have been forced to establish a special supervision of Polish soldiers in many sections of the front, and even to send them back to work behind the lines. The Polish Nation is fighting the invaders under the direction of a secret military organization and 140 underground publications. Their hatred is so strong that the Germans have so far utterly failed to set up any party in Poland that would cooperate with them. The people who find themselves under the heel of the foreign oppressor continue to fight for liberty, and such a people has the support of all other liberty loving peoples who can help them defeat the enemy and recover their independence."

The article ends with a description of sabotage and guerrilla warfare in Poland saying that peasants hide and destroy grain and burn barns. Guerrillas prevent supplies from going through by attacking trains and lorries. Pravda says one Polish guerrilla group killed 269 Germans, destroyed nine bridges and wrecked four trains. In Warsaw bombs were thrown into a restaurant for German officers in revenge for 55 Poles killed. The author concludes "The 'new order' in Poland has brought many great surprises to the Germans."

## GUERRILLA WARFARE

In Silesia German police action against Lelonek's guerrilla group fighting on against the invaders has not been successful although the leader Lelonek was killed. The German police met with a serious setback near Szopinica, when the Polish guerrillas fought their way out of their hiding place and escaped.

Accused of guerrilla activities, four Poles have been sentenced to death in Poznan. They were Dominik Mania, Ignacowie, Kulinski and Szymkowiak. On the same charge a Polish peasant, Stanislaw Paluchowski of Kubno, was sentenced to death in Wloclawek. Tried with him was Paluchowski's cousin, Leon Wojtalk who was killed by the police when trying to escape.

Indian personalities were present. On Christmas day, the United States Army arranged a cinema performance for Poles in their camp. These various arrangements were supervised by Mme. Banasinska, a Polish Red Cross worker, the Polish Ministry of Social Welfare's delegate who is responsible for Polish refugees in India.

## GEN. SIKORSKI RECEIVED AT ST. PATRICK'S

Msg. Bryant McEntegret addressed the following words to General Sikorski in St. Patrick's Cathedral just before the Polish Prime Minister and Commander-in-Chief left New York.

"We have with us today the Prime Minister of Poland and the Commander-in-Chief of the Polish Armed Forces.

"In the name of the Archbishop I welcome you. You have come to the most famous home of God in the United States. To us this Church is a representative of the faith of which we are proud. You must feel at home here because of your Catholicism and because the same virile faith that inspires your own Polish people is vibrant in this Church. We welcome you to our bosom as a fellow Catholic and as the representative of your country, Poland—the most Catholic, the most heroic, the most persecuted of countries.

"You are the embodiment and incarnate of all that Poland stands for. We welcome you as our neighbor. The neighbor portrayed in the lesson of the Samaritan. The man who was willing to come down from his horse, to help the poor man at the wayside ravaged by robbers. Your nation has performed the actions of a good neighbor Samaritan. Pulaski and Kosciuszko performed a neighborly act to America when she was fighting for liberty, and Sobieski was a good neighbor to all Christendom. Today Poland is again a neighbor to the countries beset by robbers.

"We pray that we may have the fortitude and courage to be the neighbors you have been to us and to Christendom. Please God that through our neighborliness Poland may rise again."

## GEN. SIKORSKI REWARDS PILOT

London, Jan.—At his headquarters in Scotland, General Sikorski decorated a Canadian pilot, Wing-Commander William Biddell with the Polish Cross for gallantry. In June 1940 when France collapsed Biddell piloted the plane in which Gen. Sikorski flew to Great Britain for the conference with Mr. Churchill that resulted in the British Polish agreement under which the Polish army was evacuated to Scotland. Wing Commander Biddell was awarded the Polish decoration, but only on his return from the United States was General Sikorski able to confer it, as his pilot had been in Canada on duty.



# THE POLISH HOME FRONT

---



## FIGHTS ON

---

by Guerrillas —

Sabotage —

Underground Papers —

Secret Education

**T**HE Polish Nation is united in its unswerving resistance to the Germans. Four different German proposals of collaboration have been rejected by the Poles, despite the reign of terror following each rebuff.

**T**HE underground movement is most efficiently organized and fights on, in constant touch with the Polish Government in London, which has its full support.

**N**UMEROUS partisan units are active in the mountains and forests of Poland. Thousands of court martials and executions of Polish railroad men accused of sabotage have taken place. A number of important bridges have been blasted. 800 locomotives have been destroyed.

**140** NEWSPAPERS and publications are secretly printed and distributed by thousands of men and women who daily risk their lives to keep up the spirit of the Polish people.

**T**WO secret universities and hundreds of secret secondary schools offer instruction to Polish children deprived of education because the Germans have closed all schools.

---

## Underground Poland Fights On!

---